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May 24, 03

Docket No.: MOFFAT 3.0-030
(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:
Vern A. Hult

Application No.: 09/878,465

Filed: June 11, 2001

For: PUMP DRIVE HEAD WITH STUFFING
BOX

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: Group Art Unit: 3672

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: Examiner: T.S. BOMAR

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT

Dear Sir:

In reply to the Office Action mailed on December 10, 2002, please enter the following amendments and remarks. This amendment is being submitted in accordance with the recently approved new format approved by the United States Patent and Trademark Office.

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GROUP 3600

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class Mail, in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date shown below.

Dated: May 12, 2003

Signature: _____

(Scott S. Servilla)

Claim 32 has been rejected as being unpatentable over Dietle in view of Mills, U.S. Patent No. 5,358,036. As claim 32 ultimately depends from claim 1, this objection is felt to be overcome on the same basis as discussed above with respect to claims 2 and 7.

The Examiner has rejected claim 42 as being unpatentable over Dietle in view of U.S. Patent 6,079,489 to Hult. Once again, the deficiencies of Dietle with respect to claim 41 from which claim 42 depends have been discussed above, and Hult '489 does not overcome these deficiencies in view of the lack of teaching in either reference of the use of a standpipe and a tubular sleeve to create first and second fluid passageways, with pressurization of the fluid in the first passageway to prevent the escape of well fluid, and the use of the concentric sleeve arrangement to provide driving force to the polished rod.

Conclusion

As it is believed that all of the rejections set forth in the Official Action have been fully met, favorable reconsideration and allowance is earnestly solicited. If allowance of this application may be expedited by resolution of simple issues through a telephone conference, the Examiner is welcome to call the undersigned.

If there are any additional charges in connection with this requested amendment, the Examiner is authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 12-1095 therefor.

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Dated: May 12, 2003

Respectfully submitted,

By 

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